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Illicit drug traffic and supply: world situation with regard to drug trafficking and reports of subsidiary bodies of the Commission

World situation with regard to illicit drug trafficking and reports of subsidiary bodies of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs

Report of the Secretariat

Addendum

Action taken by the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East

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I. Introduction

1. The present report contains the draft resolutions emanating from the thirty-fifth session of the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East, held in Antalya, Turkey, from 26 to 30 June 2000.

II. Matters calling for action by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs or brought to its attention

A. Draft resolution to be recommended by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs for adoption by the Economic and Social Council

2. At its thirty-fifth session, the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East recommended to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs the approval of the following draft resolution for adoption by the Economic and Social Council:

Draft resolution I

International cooperation for the control of narcotic drugs

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"*The Economic and Social Council,*

"*Concerned* with the health and welfare of humankind,

"*Recognizing* that the medical use of narcotic drugs continues to be indispensable for the relief of pain and suffering and that adequate provision must be made to ensure the availability of narcotic drugs for such purposes,

"*Deeply concerned* by the magnitude of and rising trend in the illicit production of, demand for and trafficking in opiates,

"*Emphasizing* that the need to balance the global licit supply of opiates against the legitimate demand for opiates for medical and scientific purposes is central to the international strategy and policy of drug control,

"*Recognizing* that the control of narcotic drugs is the collective responsibility of all States and that, to that end, coordinated action within the framework of international cooperation is necessary,

"*Taking into account* the social and cultural aspects of poppy cultivation in the traditional supplier countries, India and Turkey, and the dependence of large segments of populations in rural areas of those countries on the licit production of opium poppy for a living,

"*Acknowledging* the sacrifices and costly efforts made by the traditional supplier countries in order to ensure secure methods of poppy cultivation and to prevent diversion from licit to illicit channels,

"*Reaffirming* the guiding principles of existing treaties in the field of narcotic drugs, in particular the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961,[1] and the system of control that they embody,

"*Having considered* the report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 1999,[2] in which the Board points to the overproduction of opiates,

"1. *Calls upon* all Governments to support the traditional supplier countries in a spirit of international cooperation and solidarity in drug control;

"2. *Underlines* that international trade in narcotic drugs, without distinction as to source or kind, is subject to the control provided for in the related international conventions, the implementation of which is essential in order to counter the world drug problem;

"3. *Reconfirms* that the new variety of *Papaver somniferum* (opium poppy) with a high thebaine content comes under the international control regime established by the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961,[1] and must be controlled in the same way as other varieties of *Papaver somniferum* containing other alkaloids;

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 520, No. 7515.
[2] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.00.XI.1.

"4. *Requests* the International Narcotics Control Board to monitor the cultivation of this new variety of *Papaver somniferum*, the production of thebaine from it and the international trade in thebaine accordingly;

"5. *Commends* the Government of the United States of America for the 80/20 rule applied in its import of narcotic raw materials, which has contributed greatly to global efforts to maintain a lasting balance between the supply of and demand for opiates."

B. Draft resolution for adoption by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs

3. At its thirty-fifth session, the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East recommended to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Draft resolution II

Enhancing regional cooperation on drug control through training

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Concerned about the threat posed by the increasing illicit cultivation, production and consumption of and trafficking in narcotic drugs in south-west Asia,

Convinced that effective regional cooperation to counteract this threat is desirable and necessary,

Taking fully into account the recommendations of the high-level appraisal mission to Turkey undertaken by the United Nations International Drug Control Programme from 31 October to 7 November 1999, in which the mission stated that an international law enforcement academy should be set up in Turkey to support the regional strategy against the heroin route to Europe, to provide training to the agencies of the countries of the region in combating the illicit drug trade and to be a resource in developing cooperation,

Bearing in mind that such a training academy will contribute to regional drug control efforts by improving the capabilities of law enforcement agencies and promoting direct connections between them,

1. *Welcomes* the opening of the Turkish International Academy against Drugs and Organized Crime in Ankara on 26 June 2000 by the Executive Director of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention of the Secretariat;

2. *Commends* the Government of Turkey, the Government of the United States of America and the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention for their cooperation in and contribution to the establishment of the Academy;

3. *Urges* other donor countries to support the Academy and to contribute to its functioning;

4. *Urges* the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention, to the extent possible, to extend systematic and sustained assistance to the Academy, with a view to maintaining international expertise and the provision of training;

5. *Appeals* to all Governments, in particular those of States of the Near and Middle East, to participate in and provide support for activities related to the Academy in order to ensure the success of regional drug control and to give impetus to the efforts of the international community in combating drug trafficking.

C. Matters brought to the attention of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs

4. The following resolution adopted by the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East is brought to the attention of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs:

Resolution 35/1. Control of acetic anhydride

The Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East,

Recalling the Lucknow Accord on the Adoption of Uniform Measures to Control International Trade in Precursors and Other Chemicals Used in the Illicit Manufacture of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, adopted by the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East at its thirty-fourth session, held in Lucknow, India, from 1 to 5 February 1999, approved by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and adopted by

the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1999/31 of 28 July 1999,

Reaffirming that the control of acetic anhydride, a precursor frequently used in the illicit manufacture of heroin, is an essential component of a comprehensive counter-narcotics strategy,

Noting that the international commerce in acetic anhydride makes regional, international and multilateral cooperation essential to prevent its diversion to illicit channels,

Recognizing that article 12 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988[3] provides for regional, international and multilateral cooperation in precursor control,

Bearing in mind article 10 of the 1988 Convention, which calls on parties to cooperate, directly or through competent international or regional organizations, to assist and support transit States and, in particular, developing countries in need of such assistance and support, to the extent possible, through programmes of technical cooperation on interdiction and other related activities,

Recalling the various Economic and Social Council resolutions in which the Council provided guidance to Governments in the implementation of national regimes for the control of precursor chemicals in accordance with article 12 of the 1988 Convention,

Recalling also the measures to control precursors adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution S-20/4 B of 10 June 1998, at its twentieth special session, devoted to countering the world drug problem together,

Calling attention to paragraph 7 (a) (i) of General Assembly resolution S-20/4 B, in which the Assembly stressed the need to monitor trade in potassium permanganate and acetic anhydride by ensuring comprehensive controls and the provision of pre-export notification to the competent authorities in importing countries of all transactions involving those substances, in addition to those listed in Table I of the 1988 Convention,

Having considered the report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 1999,[2] in which the Board pointed out that, in 1999, the diversion of precursors from licit trade, either from international trade or from domestic manufacture and distribution channels, for the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances, continued on a large scale,

Recalling Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 43/9, in which the Commission applauded the success of the special initiative known as Operation Purple, a cooperative programme between producing, trading and importing countries to monitor and control commerce in potassium permanganate, and called for appropriate initiatives targeting acetic anhydride,

Reiterating the central role of the International Narcotics Control Board in international control of diversion of chemicals,

1. *Commends* the initiative of countries that play a major role in producing, trading and importing acetic anhydride and of the International Narcotics Control Board in developing and implementing a detailed action plan for acetic anhydride in response to the measures to control precursors adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution S-20/4 B of 10 June 1998;

2. *Welcomes* the convening of an international meeting in Antalya, Turkey, from 16 to 19 October 2000, to consider initiatives targeting acetic anhydride;

3. *Urges* Governments to take appropriate measures to control acetic anhydride, in accordance with the measures to control chemical precursors adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution S-20/4 B, and calls on them to consider participating in regional and multilateral initiatives such as the international meeting held in Antalya;

4. *Appreciates* that such an initiative directly supports the objectives to be achieved through the measures to control precursors adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution S-20/4 B;

5. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to take steps to ensure the provision of assistance, within available resources, to support the recommendations regarding the control of acetic anhydride adopted at the international meeting in Antalya;

[3] See *Official Records of the United Nations Conference for the Adoption of a Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, Vienna, 25 November–20 December 1988*, vol. I (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.XI.5).

6. *Also requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to transmit the text of the present resolution to all Governments, members of the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East and observers attending the thirty-fifth session of the Subcommission for consideration and implementation.